NEBRASKA
WEATHER & CROPS

For Week Ending July 9, 2000

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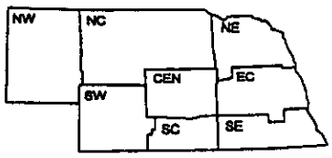
National Weather Service



Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
Cooperative Extension Service
Institute of Agriculture
and Natural Resources--UN-L

WEATHER

Temperatures for the State averaged two to seven degrees above normals for the week. Precipitation occurred across the State with amounts ranging from traces in the west to over six inches in the northeast.

GENERAL

Precipitation and higher humidity last week aided spring planted crops but slowed wheat and hay harvest, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Damaging hail, high winds, and locally heavy rainfall caused some erosion and crop damage. Southwestern areas were still in a drought situation and needing rainfall Some irrigation systems were back in use by weeks end. Producer activities included irrigating, harvesting hay and wheat, and livestock care.

CROPS

The winter wheat crop continued to move quickly toward harvest with 93% of the crop ripe, about two weeks ahead of the 42% average. Seventy-one percent of the acreage had been cut to date, compared with 26% last year and 19% for the 5-year average

Corn condition declined slightly last week and rated 8% very poor, 12% poor, 26% fair, 40% good, and 14% excellent. Irrigated corn was unchanged at 67% good to excellent, while dryland corn declined to 34% good to excellent. Fourteen percent of the crop had reached the silking stage, well ahead of last year at 2% and the average at 4%. A few reports indicated some damage from hail from last week's storms.

CROPS Cont.

Soybean condition rated 9% very poor, 13% poor, 26% fair, 38% good, and 14% excellent. Blooming had occurred on 26% of the crop acreage as of Sunday, ahead of 19% last year and 10% average. A few fields were beginning to set pods in the three eastern districts.

Sorghum condition rated 12% very poor, 11% poor, 36% fair, 35% good, and 6% excellent.

Oat condition rated 19% very poor, 23% poor, 22% fair, 26% good, and 10% excellent. Harvest was well underway with 17% harvested for grain, compared with 8% last year and 4% average.

Dry bean condition rated 3% very poor, 13% poor, 40% fair, 38% good, and 6% excellent. About 21% of the crop had bloomed by week's end, with 10% setting pods.

Alfalfa harvest of the second cutting progressed to 59% complete, compared to 38% last year and 24% average. Condition of the crop improved and rated 18% very poor, 20% poor, 34% fair, 26% good, and 2% excellent, however, rainfall lowered quality of downed hay. Wild hay condition rated 17% very poor, 28% poor, 34% fair, 20% good, and 1% excellent.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

Pasture and range condition rated 26% very poor, 31% poor, 32% fair, and 11% good. Last week's rains across the State assisted in pond filling but most pastures continued to be under drought stress. Some producers continued to move cattle off pastures, provide supplemental hay and/or protein, or move cattle to market.

FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF JULY 9, 2000		AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER-AGE
		NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
		PERCENT											
% Corn Silked		0	0	5	1	38	3	13	16	14	3	2	4
% Wheat Harvested		52	52	23	55	62	95	65	97	71	52	26	19
% Wheat Ripe		86	100	98	90	98	100	98	100	93	76	46	42
% Soybeans Blooming		n/a	10	21	8	33	7	8	43	26	17	19	10
% Alfalfa Second Cutting		36	76	62	51	65	47	64	92	59	39	38	24
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF JULY 7, 2000													
Days Suitable		6.5	6.4	5.2	6.0	4.2	6.5	3.3	3.4	5.2	5.7	6.0	
Topsoil Moisture	- Very short	41	21	14	48	22	69	0	24	28	35	0	
	- Short	34	40	28	36	25	18	26	42	30	30	11	
	- Adequate	25	39	54	16	52	13	65	34	40	34	85	
	- Surplus	0	0	4	0	1	0	9	0	2	1	4	
Subsoil Moisture-	- Very Short	11	13	26	52	49	68	42	69	38	52	0	
	- Short	39	49	45	38	31	24	22	22	35	32	4	
	- Adequate	50	38	28	10	20	8	31	9	26	16	93	
	- Surplus	0	0	1	0	0	0	5	0	1	0	3	

n/a = not available.

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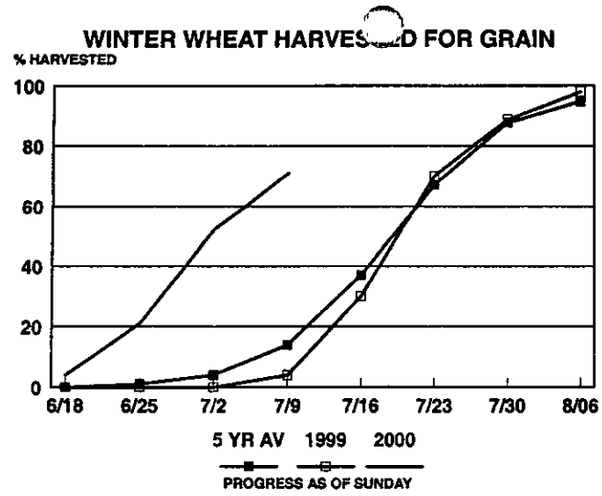
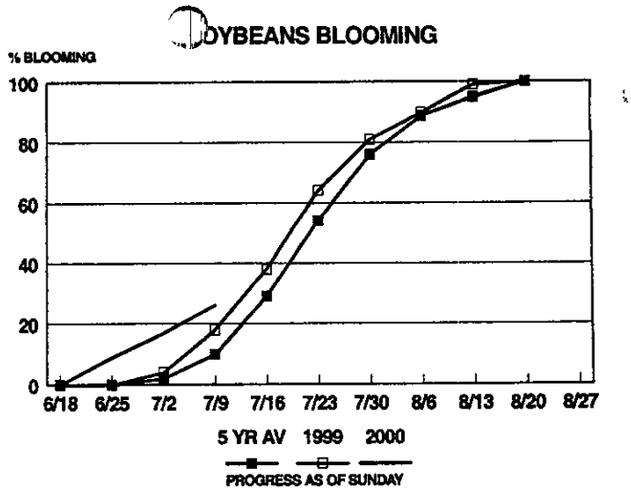
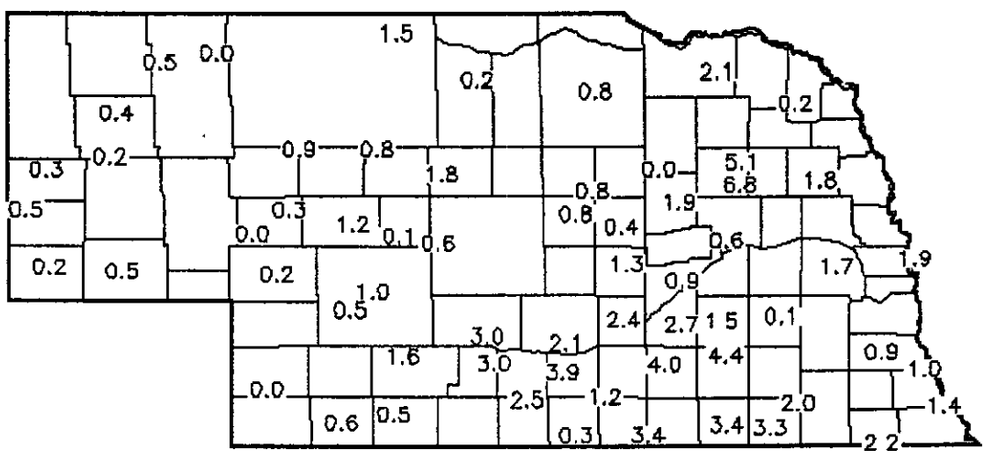




PRECIPITATION IN INCHES FOR WEEK ENDING JULY 9, 2000



Source: High Plains Climate Center

PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - JULY 9, 2000

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.61	.72	2.61	1.53	2.52	.26	1.69	2.42
Total since April 1	7.84	9.22	12.48	8.25	11.40	4.05	9.09	10.59
Normal since April 1	8.41	9.83	11.28	10.92	12.00	9.30	10.66	11.90
Total as % of normal	93%	94%	111%	76%	95%	44%	85%	89%

TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA, WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, JULY 9, 2000

	Station	Temperature				Precipitation	Growing Degree Data Since April 15		
		Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches	Last Week	Current	Normal
		Max	Min						
NW	Chadron	100	61	80	---	T	---	---	---
	Scottsbluff	97	56	79	+6	.14	179	1221	1100
	Sidney	100	57	80	---	.62	172	1173	1129
NC	Valentine	98	61	79	+5	1.47	---	---	---
	Arthur	---	---	---	---	---	175	1178	1189
	O'Neill	---	---	---	---	---	183	1236	1283
NE	Norfolk	93	63	78	+3	2.97	---	---	---
	Sioux City	90	67	78	+3	.60	---	---	---
	Concord	---	---	---	---	---	186	1318	1318
	Elgin	---	---	---	---	---	181	1294	1319
	West Point	---	---	---	---	---	182	1375	1401
CEN	Grand Island	98	66	80	+4	1 82	192	1412	1338
	Ord	97	63	79	---	.75	189	1331	1326
	Kearney	---	---	---	---	---	188	1380	1322
EC	Lincoln	93	64	80	+3	1.90	200	1544	1475
	Omaha	92	65	78	+2	4.20	---	---	---
	Central City	---	---	---	---	---	192	1413	1361
	Mead	---	---	---	---	---	191	1451	1453
SW	Imperial	105	62	83	---	.02	---	---	---
	North Platte	100	65	80	+7	1.08	185	1345	1237
	Curtis	---	---	---	---	---	189	1370	1261
SC	Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	189	1366	1311
	Red Cloud	---	---	---	---	---	204	1574	1356
SE	Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	197	1514	1475
	Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	188	1396	1352

Growing Degree Days (GDD) are used to measure the length of time required for a crop to reach maturity The formula used to calculate GDD is: Max. temp. + min temp. divided by 2 minus 50 = GDD. For example, if the average temperature for a day = 70 degrees, the GDD = 20 for that day GDD are calculated for each day and accumulated from April 15

Growing Degree Day data is furnished by the Department of Agricultural Meteorology, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, The University of Nebraska-Lincoln N/A = not available